

Lower 4 Miles Road Fire Salvage Project

PALS 58166, 05/12/2020 (updated 05-26-2020)

Areas along 4 Miles Road (23N00) were burned severely in the *Camp* Fire (November 8-25, 2018). Tree mortality has occurred in areas of high and mixed fire severity. We propose to log the trees that have died, are dying, and will die. These dead, dying, and structurally damaged live trees present an imminent safety hazard and risk to forest visitors, neighboring landowners and their homes, employees and facilities.

The project includes mixed conifer species: ponderosa pine, white fir, incense cedar, sugar pine, Douglas-fir, madrone, tan-oak, and black-oak. It is proposed to salvage these trees in the summer of 2020 using conventional logging practices. This project includes the identification and removal of hazard trees. The approximate project area is 92 acres.

Re-entry may occur up to 3 years to remove any additional danger trees for additional volume. Trees to be removed under this project will be designated with Blue Paint for cut tree mark in the low severity areas or Leave Tree mark of white paint will be used in high severity fire areas. Boundaries will be flagged with blue flagging and have painted orange. The boundary of the polygons on the attached map shows the location of proposed tree removal.

FRRD timber staff and wildlife biologists have visited Camp Fire and other tree mortality sites with provincial entomologist Danny Cluck. As a group they have marked units using the marking guidelines for fire-injured trees in California and hazard tree removal guidelines for Forest Service facilities and roads. Danny Cluck is a co-author of these marking guidelines and served as a subject matter expert on the marking guidelines and standardizing their interpretation across the interdisciplinary team.

On May 9, 2019, 10 representatives of local government, environmental organizations, industry, and the Forest Service visited nearby areas as part of a larger field trip of the FRRD Collaborative to tour National Forest System lands in the Camp Fire area.

The project was entered into PALS and appeared on the Schedule Of Proposed Actions (SOPA) on May 12. On May 12, we sent a project description and invitation for scoping to 126 collaborators representing Federal, Tribal, State, and local governments, non-government organizations, industry, education, utilities, and members of the public. The project is anticipated to have a decision in May, 2020. Please provide any comments to Eric J. Murphy, ejmurphy@usda.gov or Clay R. Davis, clay.davis@usda.gov